

Staff Picks@ RTDL: October/November 2009

Possession: a romance by A.S. Byatt/FIC
BYA

This 1990 Booker Prize winner is one of the most beautifully written novels I've ever read. It is the story of two academics' combined search for the true relationship between two Victorian poets. This intriguing story is told through letters, poems and journal entries.-Carol



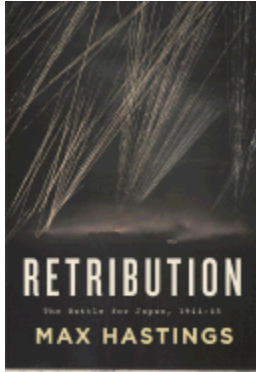
The forger's spell: a true story of Vermeer, Nazis, and the greatest art hoax of the twentieth century by Edward Dolnick/759.949 DOL

This is the true story of Han Van Meegeren, a Dutch painter who forged paintings during World War II, passing them off as the work of Johannes Vermeer, selling many to high ranking Nazi officials, including Herman Goering. The Forger's Spell is fascinating and well written, with many extra footnotes and references. I would recommend this book to anyone, especially those interested in history or art.-Catie

Guilty pleasures by Laurell K. Hamilton/PB
HAM

This is the first in a series about Anita Blake, a vampire hunter. The heroine is strong, independent and funny, and the story definitely falls into the horror genre. If you like preternatural thrillers with a sassy leading lady, you will enjoy this light read.
-Katherine



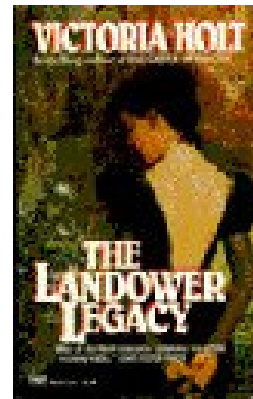


Retribution: the battle for Japan
1944-45 by Max Hastings/940.542 HAS

This book goes into great detail about the last 2 years of the Pacific War against Japan. The reader is given very detailed accounts of all the various battles (American, Japanese, British and Australian) as well as those in command. It leaves the reader wondering about some of the decisions made by the commanders of the Allied forces. Recommended for the serious aficionado of military history
-Harvey

The Landower legacy by Victoria Holt/
FIC HOL

Any book by Victoria Holt is always a pleasure to read. While she wrote mostly romance novels, these are not your average paperback, drugstore variety stories. They are filled with mystery and intrigue and are usually set in a European or exotic location. One of my favorite novels is The Landower Legacy. It is a good “take your mind off of your worries”, easy to read novel, as are all of her novels.-Nancy





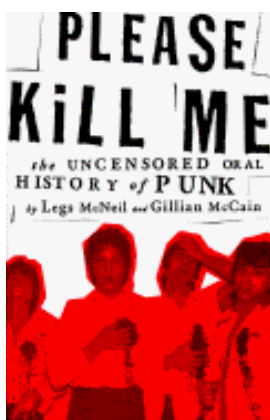
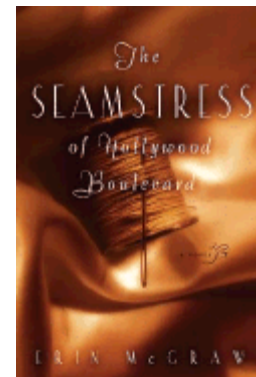
I know where I'm going/DVD
DRAMA I



Filmed on location in the Scottish Hebrides in 1945, this gentle romance stars Wendy Hiller and Roger Livesey. What appeals to me most about this movie is the gorgeous photography and the intertwining of folklore with the modern-day story. Filmmakers Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger's light-hearted style celebrates Scottish legends and traditions and the rugged beauty of the land and the locals. If you, too, are a fan of Powell and Pressburger films, we also own *The Red Shoes* and *The Black Narcissus*-Christine

Seamstress of Hollywood Boulevard by
Erin McGraw/FIC MCG

Nell Plat leaves her husband and two daughters to start a glamorous new life as a seamstress in California. There she finds a new husband and gives birth to another daughter. Years later, Nel's daughters from her first marriage arrive, hoping to find stardom on the silver screen. Recommended to readers who enjoy stories about the early days of Hollywood- Linda

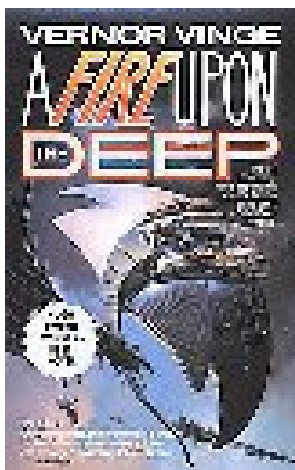


Please kill me: the uncensored oral
history of punk by Legs McNeil/781.66
MCN

Read the history of punk music as told by the people who helped create it. Among the many artists featured in and/or interviewed for this book are: The Velvet Underground, the Ramones, Blondie, and the Clash. -Dana

Fight Club by Chuck Palahniuk/FIC PAL

Fight Club a book about an anonymous man and his struggle with psychosis, depression, and monotony in a callous consumer society. He finds hope and new life through Fight Club, an after hours boxing club. -John



A fire upon the deep by Vernor

Vinge/SCI FI VIN

A Fire Upon the Deep won a Hugo Award in 1992, putting Vinge on the pedestal of authors/wizards of science fiction next to Asimov, Bradbury, and Ellison. This story focuses on the oldest plot line in history – good against evil. The main character is assisted by her boyfriend (who is adjusting to the sudden lack of special insight and power), to save a boy and his spaceship's wreckage to try to stop the Evil that was awoken- Kendra

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